

REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1908.

To the Urban District Council of Worksop.

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present to you my Report on the Health of the Urban District of Worksop during the year 1908.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

T. C. GARRETT,

Medical Officer of Health.

Population.—The estimated population of the district for the middle of the year 1908 was 19,109, showing an increase of 445 on that of 1907, or an increase at the rate of 2.4 per cent.

During the year 79 new houses were certified as fit for occupation, and at the end of the year there were in addition 59 in course of erection, making in all an increase of 138 new dwelling houses for the year.

In the last 5 years the rate of growth of the town, as indicated by the number of new houses erected, has been very uniform, viz:—

In 1904 —	96
1905 —	125
1906 —	137
1907 —	135
1908 —	138

Births.—During the year 637 births were registered, 309 males and 328 females, corresponding to a birth rate of 33.3 per 1,000 of the population. This rate is .4 above the average for the past 10 years, and is 4.7 above that for the year 1907, which was an exceptionally low one.

The births and rates for each quarter were as follows:—

Quarter ending—	Males	Females	Total	Rate	Rate in 1907
March	75	88	163	34.2	29.3
June	90	78	168	35.2	30.3
September ...	79	83	162	33.6	27.2
December ...	65	79	144	29.9	27.6
	309	328	637	33.3	

With the exception of 1907, the birth rate for the past 5 years has been above 33, and has varied only by a decimal point. The last rate is still slightly above the average—32.9.

In 1908 the birth rate for England and Wales was 26.5. The average birth rate for the last 10 years in the Urban Districts of the County was 32.8.

The illegitimate births numbered 31. These were 4.8 per cent. of the total number registered. There were 2 deaths among illegitimate infants.

Deaths.—The number of deaths registered in the district was 270—150 males and 120 females, giving a death rate of 14.1 per 1,000.

The actual number of deaths was 65 less than the previous year.

The rate is 3.8 below that for 1907, 2.9 below the average for the last 10 years, and is the lowest rate of which I have record for this district.

Not only was the general death rate a low one, but there was also a satisfactory decrease in the infantile mortality rate—the number of deaths being 72 and the rate 113, as compared with 94 and a rate of 176 in the year before.

There were 46 deaths in Public Institutions, viz.:—

Kilton Hill Infirmary	...	...	...	36
Victoria Hospital	...	...	...	10

Fourteen of these were non-residents. These have been distributed to their proper districts, while the death of 20 residents from Institutions beyond the district have been included in the corrected death rate for the year, which is 14.4

Inquests.—13 Inquests were held during the year, the cause of death being:—

Accidents	...	...	...	7
Burns	...	...	...	2
Drowning	...	...	...	3
Natural Causes	...	...	...	1

Table IV. gives the cause of death and the numbers at different ages.

Twenty-six per cent. of the total deaths were those of infants under 1 year, and nearly 25 per cent. persons over 65. There were 28 deaths from Heart Disease, and 14 from Cancer.

Deaths from Bronchitis and Pneumonia numbered 40, as compared with 64 in the previous year; from Phthisis 16, and other Tuberculous Disease 11, making the total deaths from all Tuberculous Diseases 27, and the death rate 1.4 per 1,000.

By an order issued by the Local Government Board in December, all cases of Phthisis occurring in the Poor Law Practice must, in future, be notified to the local Sanitary Authority. It is not intended that persons so notified are to be placed under any restrictions or that isolation in their homes is to be attempted, but the Order states that the Council may “Take all such measures as are authorised in any case of infectious disease, by any enactment relating to public health and as have reference to the destruction and disinfection of infected articles, or the cleansing or disinfecting of premises; furnish, for the use of the poor person, on loan, or otherwise, any appliance, or utensil, which will be of assistance for the purpose of any precaution against the spread of infection.”

Infantile Mortality.—The number of deaths in infants under 1 year was 72, and the rate of mortality per 1,000 births was 113.

This rate is 59 below the average for the last 10 years, and is the lowest rate of which I can find a record for this district.

On referring to Table V., showing the causes of death, it will be seen that the largest number comes under the heading Atrophy, Debility and Marasmus, and Premature Birth, viz., 26, and this is about the average in recent years. There is, however, a marked decrease in the deaths from Bronchitis and Pneumonia, while there were no deaths among infants from any of the infectious diseases.

There were 5 deaths from Diarrhœa and 7 from other Intestinal complaints. These were also below the average. The Diarrhœa season was a short one, beginning about the last week in July and ending before the end of August, and there was little or no recurrence of the disease during the warm weather which prevailed in autumn.

There were only 3 deaths from Tubercular Disease, 2 from Meningitis, and 1 from General Tuberculosis.

No deaths were registered from overlaying, and only one from burns, a child of 8 years.

Until recently no special effort has been made in the district to deal with the question of Infantile Mortality. This year the Worksop Ladies' Health Association was formed, under the presidency of Her Grace the Duchess of Portland, and a committee of ladies, of which Mrs. E. Latchmore, M.D., is the Secretary, and Mrs. Daffen, Treasurer.

A successful meeting was held in December, at which the Duchess presided, when it was decided to begin work at once.

The work of the Association is done by two qualified nurses, and consists in visiting the houses where there are infants and where it is thought their help will be desirable, to give advice and assistance to mothers as to the best methods of feeding and clothing their infants, pointing out the advantages of fresh air and cleanliness, and all other details relative to the hygiene of the home.

The Association is maintained by voluntary contributions, and as yet the work is carried on under a temporary arrangement, but it is hoped that funds will be forthcoming to enable the committee to carry on the work permanently.

Zymotic Death Rate.—The number of deaths from Epidemic Disease was 16:—

Scarlet Fever	...	...	3
Diphtheria	...	...	5
Enteric Fever	...	...	2
Diarrhœa	...	...	6

The Zymotic death rate was .8 per 1,000 as compared with 2.2 in 1907.

This rate is influenced to a large extent by the prevalence of Measles, Whooping Cough, and Epidemic Diarrhœa, all of which are very fatal among young children. The low rate this year is mainly accounted for by the fact that the town was free from Measles and Whooping Cough during the whole of the year, and the weather conditions in summer were not favourable for the long continued prevalence of Diarrhœa.

Infectious Disease.—There were 139 cases of Infectious Disease notified, as compared with 187 in the previous year.

Scarlet Fever was much less prevalent (91 as compared with 160), while Diphtheria and Erysipelas showed a slight increase, and cases of Typhoid Fever again appeared in the town after a period of exemption of 3 years.

The cases notified were as follows:—

Scarlet Fever	...	...	91
Diphtheria	...	...	22
Erysipelas	...	...	15
Typhoid	...	...	8
Puerperal Fever	...	...	3

Scarlet Fever.—The most severe epidemic of the year occurred at Shireoaks Village in July. The School was closed at once, but owing to some mild cases which were not reported or isolated at the beginning of the outbreak, the disease soon spread through the village, and 25 cases were notified before the outbreak was checked. This village has been practically free from Scarlet Fever for over 10 years, a circumstance which favoured the rapid spread of infection once the disease was introduced.

In connection with this outbreak I drew your attention to the want of a supply of drinking water on the School premises, the only supply available being from a pump in a private yard across the road. On examination the water from this well was found to be polluted with sewage, and unfit for drinking.

The well was condemned and the use of the water discontinued. A supply of water will be laid to these cottages and to the School, from the deep well which supplies the rest of the village.

In the Town cases of Scarlet Fever were notified in every month except June and July.

They were mild in type and widely distributed, not affecting seriously any particular School or district.

From the continued prevalence of Scarlet Fever in the town it is evident that a considerable number of mild cases escape detection altogether, and that some of these children return to School in an infectious condition. The only means of preventing this seems to be to prolong the period of exclusion from School, more particularly for the contacts. In future, after a case is notified, it is proposed to exclude every other child in the house from School for at least 8 weeks.

Sixty-one cases were treated in Hospital.

Diphtheria.—Cases were notified in every month except May. Six were children under 5 years, 2 adults, and 14 in children between 5 and 15.

Only in one instance was there more than one case in the same house, and no particular School was effected.

Eight cases were treated in Hospital.

Typhoid Fever. —In 4 of the cases the source of the infection was not clear. They were in different localities, and had no connection one with the other.

The other 4 cases originated from the same source. A child became ill soon after returning from a visit. The nature of the illness was not suspected, and it was only recognised when

medical advice was sought on account of the mother and another child. A friend who helped to nurse the children also contracted the disease.

Five cases were treated in Hospital.

Scavenging.—Up to September, 1908, the Scavenging of the district was done by a Contractor, but owing to the unsatisfactory way in which the work was done for some time, the Council then decided to take over the work. A capable Foreman was appointed, who has full charge of the staff of men and horses necessary to carry out the work.

House-holders are required to send notice to the Inspector, who prepares the list, twice weekly, for the Foreman.

There is a weekly collection of house refuse, and the Scavengers now collect this from the yards of premises. Formerly the custom was that householders were required to deposit the refuse in the street for collection.

There has been no extension of the Sewerage System during the year, but 6 new ventilating shafts have been erected at points in the main sewer.

In the summer months sections of the main sewers are flushed regularly at stated intervals.

This year the Council renewed their lease of the Sewage Farm for another 25 years.

The Private Slaughter-houses in the town, numbering 26, have been inspected frequently; also the weekly Cattle Market, Fish Market, the Hide and Skin Co.'s premises, and the business of Gut-Scraping carried on in the market.

Cowsheds and Milk Shops.—There are 19 registered Cowsheds in the district, which were all inspected several times.

In no instance was serious cause of complaint found in regard to cleanliness, air space, or ventilation.

In several sheds desirable improvements have been made.

All the animals in the sheds have been inspected four times in the year by the Veterinary Inspector, who reports that the general condition of the animals is good, and that fewer suspects came under his notice than in the previous year. In these cases his advice is readily taken, and the animals are excluded from the milk supply.

The registered Milk Shops number 11.

Practically no milk is stored on these premises. They are used for storing and washing utensils, and to receive the milk, which is distributed at once.

Factories and Workshops.—At the end of the year there were 60 Workshops on the register, an increase of 4.

246 inspections were made, and 4 notices served and complied with.

Lists were received from all employers, employing out-workers, and these premises were inspected. No cases of infectious disease occurred in any of these houses during the year.

Bakehouses.—There are 15 Bakehouses in occupation. In several instances the walls and floors required cleaning. At the Bakehouse where I reported last year that the yard required paving, the improvement has been carried out.

The Sanitary Accommodation in 19 Factories was inspected, and found satisfactory, except in one, where accommodation for Females was required. This has since been remedied.

Section 22 of the Public Health Acts Amendment Act has been adopted, and the standard of sufficiency enforced is in accordance with the Order of February 4th, 1903.

INSPECTIONS.

Factories	...	...	...	84
Workshops	...	...	...	246
Workplace	...	...	...	12
				<hr/>
Total			...	342

Written Notices 4.

DEFECTS FOUND. Nuisances under the Public Health Acts:—

Want of Cleanliness	...	...	3
Remedied	...	...	4
Sanitary Accommodation	...	...	1

HOME WORK.

Lists received	...	...	10
Outworkers	...	...	12
Inspection of Outworkers' premises			25

REGISTERED WORKSHOPS.

Bakehouses	...	...	15
Tailoring, Dressmaking and Millinery			22
Bootmaking	...	...	7
Furniture and Upholstery		...	4
Shoeing Forges	...	...	5
Miscellaneous	...	...	7
			<hr/> 60

OTHER MATTERS.

Failure to Affix Abstract of Factory and Workshop Act	...	3
Notified by H.M. Inspector	...	1
Reports (of action taken) sent to H.M. Inspector	...	1

TO THE WORKSOP URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Report of Inspector of Nuisances as to Inspections made, Nuisances abated, and Improvements effected during the year 1908.

1.	Common Lodging Houses:—	
	Number registered	6
	Inspections made	96
2.	Canal Boats inspected	23
3.	Factories and Workshops:—	
	Inspections made	342
	And of premises of “ Outworkers ”	25
4.	Bakeries, Dairies, Cowsheds, and Slaughter-houses:—	
	Inspections made	603
5.	Pigstyes abolished	2
6.	Sink waste pipes disconnected from drain and made to discharge into the open air	3
7.	Overcrowding, cases of, abated	1
8.	Badly paved and uneven yards, properly paved and channelled	8
9.	Public House Urinals repaired and improved	1
10.	Minor Nuisance—such as blocked gullies and drains, badly kept pigstyes, accumulations of manure and rubbish, and defective flushing apparatus to water closets—attended to and abated	93
11.	Midden privies abolished and water closets substituted	16
12.	Additional privy accommodation provided, where pre- viously insufficient	2
13.	Privy and ashpit vaults raised to ground-line, and other- wise repaired and improved.	7
14.	Flushing apparatus provided to W.C. Pans, where pre- viously no means of flushing other than carrying and pouring water into pan	3
15.	Rooms fumigated after cases of Infectious Disease	157
16.	Schools fumigated, by spraying with Cyllin and Formalin	1
17.	Cowsheds provided with additional light and ventilation	1
18.	Wells condemned	1

H. SIMPSON,

Inspector of Nuisances.

TABLE I.

WORKSOP URBAN DISTRICT.

Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1908 and previous years.

YEAR	Popula- tion estima- ted to Middle of each year	BIRTHS		TOTAL DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE DISTRICT				Total Deaths in Public Institu- tions in the District	Deaths of Non- Resi- dents regis- tered in Public Institu- tions in the District	Deaths of Resi- dents regis- tered in Public Institu- tions beyond the District	NETT DEATHS AT ALL AGES BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT	
		Num- ber	Rate*	Under 1 year of age		At all Ages					Num- ber	Rate *
				Num- ber	Rate per 1000 Births Regist- ered	Num- ber	Rate*					
I	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1898	15102	487	32'2	105	215'6	278	18'4	26	8	5	275	18'2
1899	15462	484	31'3	113	233	300	19'4	12	3	2	299	19'4
1900	15830	508	32	89	175	296	18'6	29	16	—	280	17'6
1901	16207	535	33'	78	145	237	14'6	24	6	1	232	14'3
1902	16592	599	36'1	106	176	304	18'3	37	12	4	296	17'8
1903	16988	609	35'8	91	149	275	16'1	36	12	3	266	15'6
1904	17392	583	33'5	104	178	291	16'7	32	11	3	283	16'2
1905	17807	593	33'3	76	128	258	14'5	38	8	10	260	14'6
1906	18230	508	33'3	89	146	284	15'5	39	9	10	285	15'6
1907	18644	534	28'6	94	176	335	17'9	43	13	13	335	17'9
Avrgs. for years 1898- 1907	16825	554	32'9	94	172	285	17	31	9	5	281	16'7
1908	19109	637	33'3	72	113	270	14'1	46	14	20	276	14'4

* Rates in Columns 4, 8, and 13 calculated per 1,000 of estimated population..

At Census of 1901.

Total population at all ages	...	...	16,112
Number of inhabited houses	...	...	3,258
Average number of persons per house	...	...	4'9

Area of District in acres (exclusive of area covered by water), 17,930.

I. Institutions within the District receiving sick and infirm persons from outside the District.	II. Institutions outside the District receiving sick and infirm persons from the District.	III. Other Institutions, the deaths in which have been distributed among the several localities in the District.
<p>Kilton Hill (Workhouse) Infirmary</p> <p>Victoria Hospital</p> <p>Small-Pox Hospital</p>	<p>(1) The Workop and Blyth and Cuckney Isolation Hospital, Carlton</p> <p>(2) Notts. County Asylum</p>	

TABLE III.
WORKSOP URBAN DISTRICT.

Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the Year 1908.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE	CASES NOTIFIED IN WHOLE DISTRICT							No. of cases removed to Hospital from each locality
	At all Ages	At Ages—Years						
		Under 1	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 65	65 and upwards	
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup) .	22		6	14		2		8
Erysipelas	15			1	3	10	1	
Scarlet Fever	91		24	62	3	2		61
Enteric Fever	8	1	2		2	3		5
Puerperal Fever . . .	3				2	1		
Totals	139	1	32	77	10	18	1	74

Isolation Hospital—Worksop and Blyth and Cuckney Isolation
Hospital, Carlton.

TABLE IV.

WORKSOP URBAN DISTRICT.

Causes of, and Ages at, Death during the year 1908.

Causes of Death	All ages	Under 1 Year	1 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 65	65 and upwards	In Public Institu- tions
Scarlet Fever	3		2	1				
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup)	5		3	2				
Enteric Fever	2					2		
Epidemic Influenza	4	1				2	1	
Diarrhœa	6	5	1					
Enteritis	7	7						
Puerpural Fever	2				1	1		
Erysipelas	1			1				
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis) .	16			2	3	10	1	3
Other Tuberculous Diseases . . .	11	3	3	4		1		
Cancer, Malignant Disease . . .	14				1	10	3	4
Bronchitis	21	6	3			4	11	5
Pneumonia	16	5	2		1	5	3	1
Alcoholism, Cirrhosis of Liver .	2					2		
Venereal Disease	1	1						
Premature Birth	10	10						
Diseases and Accidents of parturition	2				1	1		2
Heart Diseases	28				2	17	9	2
Accidents	11	1		3	2	4	1	4
Old Age	23						23	2
Convulsions	7	5	1	1				
Cerebral Hæmorrhage	14				1	4	9	3
Atrophy, Debility, and Marasmus .	16	16						
All other causes	51	12	10	3	2	15	9	20
All causes	276	72	25	17	14	78	70	46

TABLE V.

WORKSOP URBAN DISTRICT.

Infantile Mortality during the year 1908. Deaths from stated causes in Weeks and Months under One Year of Age.

CAUSE OF DEATH	Under 1 Week		1-2 Weeks		2-3 Weeks		3-4 Weeks		Total under 1 month		1-2 Months		2-3 Months		3-4 Months		4-5 Months		5-6 Months		6-7 Months		7-8 Months		8-9 Months		9-10 Months		10-11 Months		11-12 Months		Total Deaths under 1 Year
	Certified	Uncertified																															
All causes	27	2	9	3	2	9	3	3	4	3	4	3	3	3	4	3	3	4	3	3	3	3	3	72	
Diarrhoea, all form	1													1				1						5	
Enteritis, Muco-enteritis, Gastro enteritis	1																							1	
Gastritis, Gastrointestinal, Catarrh	2																							6	
Premature Birth	10			1																				10	
Congenital Effects																								1	
Atrophy Debility, Marasmus	8																							16	
Tuberculous Meningitis																								2	
Other Tuberculous Diseases																								1	
Syphilis	1																							1	
Meningitis (not Tuberculous)																								3	
Convulsions	2																							5	
Bronchitis																								6	
Pneumonia																								5	
Other Causes	2																							10	
	14	1	3	9	27	2	9	3																								72	

Births in the year { legitimate, 606. Deaths in the year of { legitimate infants, 70.
 illegitimate, 31. illegitimate infants, 2.

Population, estimated to middle of 1908, 19,109. Deaths from all causes at all ages, 276.

WORKSOP:
SISSONS AND SON, PRINTERS,
8 AND 10, POTTER STREET.
